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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.	: 10/682,554	Confirmation No.	: 9463
First Named Inventor	: Hideki NAGATSUKA		
Filed	: October 10, 2003		
TC/A.U.	: 2121		
Examiner	: Ronald D. Hartman		
Docket No.	: 056203.51548C1		
Customer No.	: 23911		
Title	: Plant Operating Apparatus and Method		

REPLY UNDER 37 CFR §1.111

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in response to the Office Action dated August 16, 2005.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.